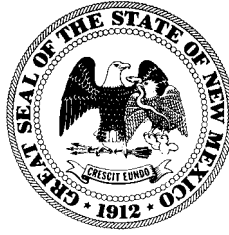


# State of New Mexico



Office of the Attorney General  
**PATRICIA A. MADRID**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release  
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### **Attorney General Madrid Applauds Supreme Court Decision to Reverse DWI Case**

(Santa Fe, NM)— Today, at the urging of Attorney General Patricia Madrid, the New Mexico Supreme Court reversed the Court of Appeals and ruled that defendants convicted of repeat DWI offenses in 2003 should have been given the stricter DWI penalties the legislature enacted that year.

Attorney General Patricia Madrid said, "I am very pleased that the Court agreed with our position. I took this case to the Supreme Court because I am committed to the strengthening of our state's DWI laws whenever and wherever I can. This case was not easy because we needed to convince the Supreme Court to reverse the Court of Appeals. But we worked hard on this and I think the court made the right decision based on solid legal precedent and what our constitution requires. We believe the legislature's intent was clear to apply the higher penalties enacted in 2003."

"Frankly, while I'm pleased that the increased DWI penalties passed in 2003 will apply in these cases, I'd like to see those penalties increased even more. I plan to continue to ask the legislature and the governor to treat repeat DWI felony offenders the same as all other repeat felony offenders and add substantially more increased terms to their imprisonment. We plan to work together with MADD, Nadine Milford and others to keep advocating for that."

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